

*With the Author's Compliments*

THINGOE RURAL  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

BY

CHARLES SCOTT KILNER,

*Medical Officer of Health,*

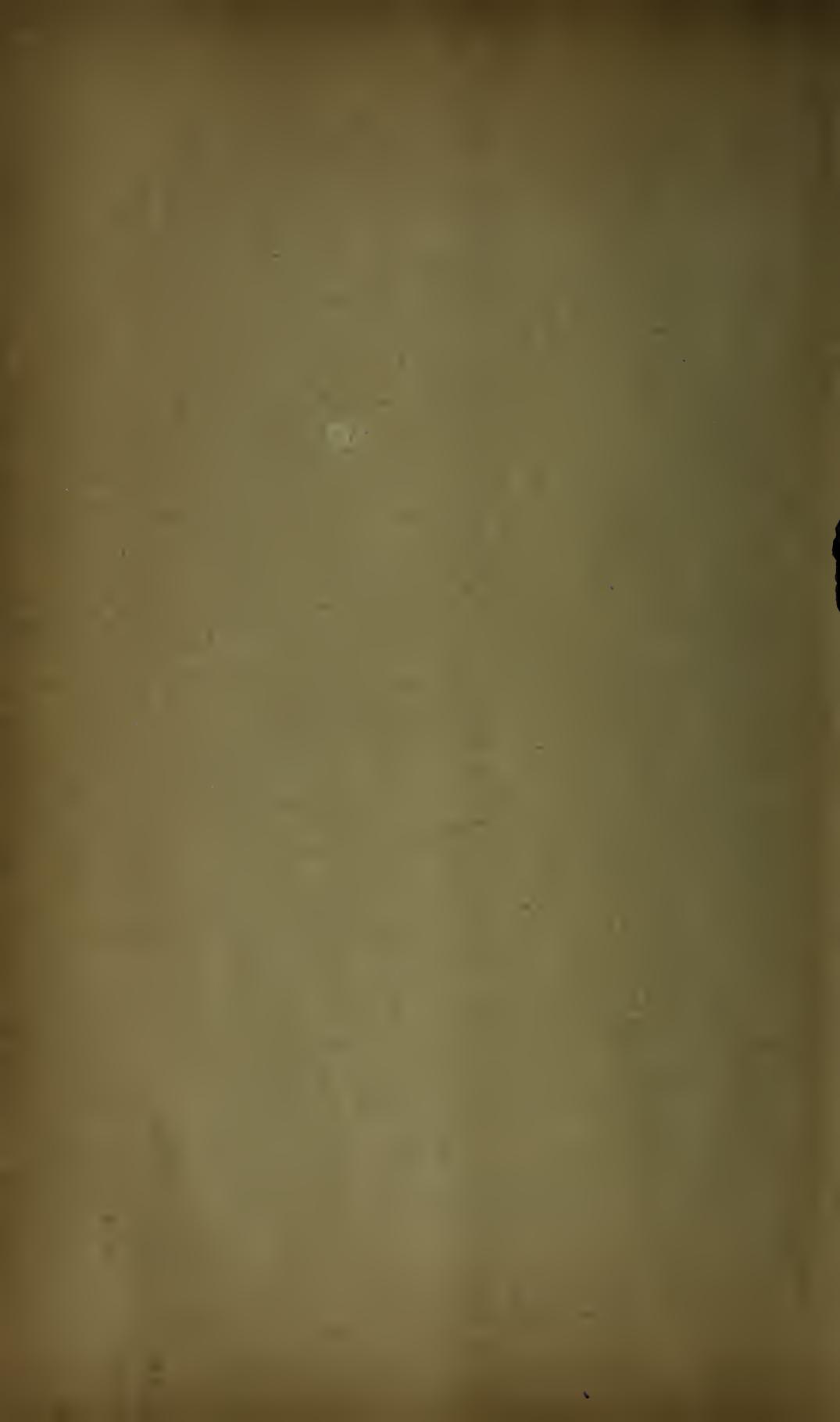
PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED  
FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

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BURY ST. EDMUND'S:

PRINTED BY THE BURY POST COMPANY (LD.), ABBEYGATE STREET.

1895.



# THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT.

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*To the Thingoe Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you my Seventeenth Annual Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Thingoe Rural District for the year 1894.

The population of the Thingoe Rural District in 1891, Population. when the last Census was taken, was 15,743. I propose still to retain this number as the basis on which to frame the following statistics, as for all practical purposes I believe it may be assumed to be correct.

In the Thingoe District during the year 1894 there were Births. registered 428 births, which is equivalent to a birth-rate of 26.55 per 1000 of the population.

In the year 1893 there were 477 births, giving a birth-rate of 30.29 per 1000. The birth-rate in England and Wales in 1894 was 29.6 per 1000.

In the Thingoe District during the year 1894 there were Deaths. 216 deaths, of which 39 were under one year of age, 98 between one and sixty-five years of age, and 79 above sixty-five years of age.

The death-rate for the year was 13.72 per 1000 of the population.

In the year 1893 there were 271 deaths, which was equivalent to a death-rate of 17.21 per 1000.

The death-rate in England and Wales in 1894 was 16.6 per 1000.

In the Thingoe District during the year 1894 there were Excess of Births over Deaths. 212 more births than there were deaths.

First Quarter—Number of Deaths	63	Death-rate	16.00	Deaths in each Quarter.
Second „ „ „	40.	„	10.16	
Third „ „ „	45.	„	11.43	
Fourth „ „ „	68.	„	17.27	

**Infant Mortality.** Proportion of deaths under one year of age to 1000 births :—

In the Thingoe District in 1894 it was 91.12

1893	,,	90.54
In England and Wales in 1894	,,	137.0

**Mortality above 60 Years of Age.** Mortality per 1000 living above 60 years of age (the estimated number living being 965) :—

In the Thingoe District in 1894 it was 95.33

1893	,,	122.2
In England and Wales in 1894	,,	62.3

**Zymotic Diseases** In the Thingoe District during the year 1894 there were 20 deaths referred to the seven principal Zymotic diseases, viz., Scarlet Fever 1, Diphtheria 10, Fever (Puerperal) 1, Measles 1, Whooping Cough 6, and Diarrhoea 1. This is equivalent to a Zymotic death-rate of 1.27 per 1000.

In England and Wales, in 1894, the Zymotic death-rate was 1.76 per 1000.

**Small-pox.** No case of Small Pox was reported as having occurred in the Thingoe District during the past year.

**Scarlet Fever.** During the past year cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred in several parishes throughout the Thingoe District, viz., Barrow, Barton, Chevington, Fornham St. Martin, Hawstead, Ixworth, Nowton, Pakenham, Stanton, and Whepstead, but in no instance did the disease attack more than one or two families in any parish. The origin of some of the cases was veiled in obscurity, but in most of them the source of infection could be directly traced.

The steps taken to prevent the disease from spreading have been similar to those which have been adopted in previous years, viz., 1st, Free distribution of disinfectants. 2nd, Subsequent disinfection of the various infected houses. 3rd, The distribution of printed circulars, stating as simply as possible the precautions recommended to be taken, and the penalties a person is liable to for infringing the Acts of Parliament relating to infectious diseases.

**Diphtheria** Diphtheria, which has recently been so prevalent in many parts of England, has also occurred during the past year in several parishes in the Thingoe District, viz., in Barrow, Chedburgh, Chevington, Depden, Fornham St. Martin, Nowton, Risby, and Whepstead. It was chiefly, however, in the neighbourhood of Barrow and Chevington that it assumed serious proportions. In some instances the cause of the disease could be traced to certain Sanitary defects which

were found to exist ; in others an impure Water Supply was the probable cause ; whilst in many it was due to infection from a person previously suffering from the disease. Where practicable, most of the Sanitary defects have been remedied, and a purer Water Supply has been provided ; the Schools at Barrow and Chevington were closed for several weeks ; and similar precautions to those taken in the case of Scarlet Fever have also been adopted in dealing with cases of Diphtheria.

I was anxious to try the effect of Antitoxin, the new remedy for Diphtheria, as a preventative during the recent outbreak at Barrow, but although I applied twice to the Institute of Preventive Medicine, I was unable to procure any, owing to the very limited supply of the material then produced.

The Thingoe District has again been very free from Typhoid Fever. Typhoid Fever, only two cases having been reported during the past year. In one instance the disease was probably caused by the accidental opening of an old dead well under the floor of the kitchen, the existence of which was not known.

The District has been tolerably free from Measles during Measles. the past year, only one death from this cause having been registered. In June, however, it was deemed necessary to close the Culford School owing to an outbreak of Measles in this parish.

Whooping Cough has been prevalent in many places Whooping Cough throughout the District, especially during the latter portion of the year, and six deaths from this complaint have been recorded. In October it was found necessary to close the Schools at Barrow and at Fornham St. Martin on account of the prevalence of Whooping Cough in these parishes.

The District has again been very free from Diarrhoea, Diarrhoea. only one death due to this cause having been reported.

A table which is attached to this report shows the nature Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act. of the Infectious Diseases which have been notified during the past year under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act of 1889, and the parishes in which they have occurred.

It is worthy of note that the death-rate for the year was General death-rate. 13.72 per 1000, which is, with one exception, the lowest that has been recorded during the past sixteen years. The death-rate for the second quarter of the year was only 10.16 per 1000, and this also, with one exception, is lower than it has been in any quarter during a similar

period. The death-rate in the third quarter was also very low, being only 11.43 per 1000.

I think, therefore, that the general health of the District may be considered as highly satisfactory.

**Sanitary Inspection.**

The District has, during the past year, been systematically inspected by Mr. Deeks, the Inspector of Nuisances, and myself, and although nothing on a large scale has been undertaken, nevertheless much useful Sanitary Work has been accomplished, as is evidenced by the following remarks on the Water Supply, Drainage, &c., and by reference to the Inspector's Report.

**Water Supply.**

During the past year thirty-one samples of water taken from various parts of the District have been analysed, with the result that fifteen wells and five ponds have been cleaned out. Five wells have been deepened in order that a better supply of water might be obtained, and six new wells have been sunk, viz., at Barton 1, Brockley 1, Fornham 1, Rougham 1, and Whepstead 2.

**Sewage and Drainage.**

During the past year twenty-five new closets have been built, and twenty-nine repaired. Eighteen cesspools found to be full have been ordered to be cleaned out. Twenty-seven new drains have been made, thirty-six others unblocked or repaired, and forty-one water courses have been cleaned out.

In the early part of the summer complaints were received regarding the state of a branch of the river Lark at the back of Mr. Gough's Maltings, the stench arising from which was very offensive. This was subsequently cleaned out, and all drainage from the Maltings and the neighbouring houses which had previously found their way into the river was, by kind permission of the Town Council of Bury St. Edmund's, allowed to run into the Main Sewer running from Bury St. Edmund's to West Stow, and which passes close to this spot.

Complaints were received relating to a ditch at Chevington, which was in a foul state owing to the drainage from several cottages running into it. A notice was served on the owner of the cottages to abate the nuisance, but, as this was not complied with, the case was brought before the Thingoe Magistrates, who made an order for the abatement of the nuisance.

**Dwelling Houses**

During the past year forty-four houses which were in a dilapidated condition have been repaired, and six have been better ventilated. Three cases of overcrowding have been

remedied, and twenty-eight houses and two schools have been disinfected.

I am glad to notice that several new substantially-built cottages are being erected on the Rougham Estate.

The Ixworth Cottages, eight in number, which were built by the Thingoe Rural Sanitary Authority, and which were completed towards the end of 1893, are now all let at a yearly rental of £5 10s.

The bake-houses and slaughter-houses visited during the past year were generally found to be in a fairy satisfactory condition.

I am indebted to Robert Burrell, Esq., of Westley Hall, for the following table, showing the rainfall for each month during the year. The total rainfall was 25.57 inches, which amount fell on 184 days.

January ...	1.83	inches	August ...	3.17	inches
February ...	1.73	"	September	1.41	"
March ...	.80	"	October ...	2.22	"
April ...	1.27	"	November	2.49	"
May ...	2.68	"	December	2.29	"
June ...	2.43	"	Total ..	25.57	
July ...	3.25	"			

In conclusion, I beg to append a table giving particulars regarding each parish in the Thingoe Rural District, and also two tables, A and B, which show the number of births and deaths, and the number of new cases of infectious diseases, which have come to my knowledge, classified according to diseases, ages, and localities.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES SCOTT KILNER,

M.B., C.M., Edin., D.P.H., Camb.,

Medical Officer of Health.

*Bury St. Edmunds,*

*February 4th, 1895.*

TABLE (A) OF DEATHS during the year 1894, in the Thingoe Rural District; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities.	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined Ages.										Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.										
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup.	Puerperal Fever	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Phthisis	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All Other Diseases.	Total
ROUGHAM Sub-District	89	14	9	7	2	18	39	Under 5 upwards	I	I	I	I	I	I	7	II	23	42	66		
FORNHAM Sub-District	57	14	5	5	4	10	19	Under 5 upwards	4	4	3	I	I	I	5	II	11	I	9	19	38
IXWORTH Sub-District	70	11	7	4	4	23	21	Under 5 upwards	I						3	4	5	6	1	9	15
TOTALS ...	216	39	21	16	10	51	79	Under 5 upwards	5	5	1	I	I	I	6	I	11	18	30	35	60
															15	15	52	52	156	91	

TABLE (B) OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge  
of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1894, in the Thingoe Rural District; classified according to DISEASES  
AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	Population at all Ages.		New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medi- cal Officer of Health.							
	Census, 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1894.	Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup.	Enteric or Typhoid	Puerperal	Erysipelas
ROUGHAM SUB-DISTRICT ... ... }	5129	About the same as in 1891.	142	Under 5. 5 upwards.	1	1		1	1	7
FORNHAM SUB-DISTRICT ... ... }	5337		160	Under 5. 5 upwards.	12	7	1	1	1	7
IXWORTH SUB-DISTRICT ... ... }	5277		126	Under 5. 5 upwards.	3	4	18			9
TOTALS ... ... ... ...	15743		428	Under 5. 5 upwards.	33	5	1	2	1	23

*Report of the Inspector of Nuisances on the Sanitary Work completed during the year 1894.*

Number of houses, premises, &c., inspected	...	No record.
,, notices served	...	266

DWELLING HOUSES.

Number of dilapidated houses repaired	...	...	...	44
,, houses closed	...	...	...	6
,, house better ventilated	...	...	...	6
,, cases of overcrowding remedied	...	...	...	3
,, houses disinfected	...	...	...	28
,, schools disinfected	...	...	...	2

SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Number of new closets	...	...	...	...	25
,, closets repaired, &c.	...	...	...	...	29
,, cesspools cleaned out	...	...	...	...	18
,, new drains made	...	...	...	...	27
,, drains unblocked, &c.	...	...	...	...	36
,, water courses cleaned out	...	...	...	...	41

WATER SUPPLY.

Number of new wells sunk	...	...	...	...	6
,, well top coverings and pumps repaired	...	...	...	...	19
,, wells deepened	...	...	...	...	5
,, ponds cleaned out	...	...	...	...	6

MISCELLANEOUS.

Number of animals improperly kept, removed	...	...	...	...	14
,, open pools near houses filled up	...	...	...	...	9
,, accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	14
,, accumulations of offal and blood removed	...	...	...	...	2
,, legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	1

RICHARD DEEKS,

Inspector of Nuisances.

*ary Statistics and Report of the Medical Officer of Health of the Thingoe Rural District Council, for the Year 18*

